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THE CONTINUATION OF LETTERS

ON THE

PROGRESS AND ESTABLISHMENT

OF THE

CULTURE OF SILK,

ON THE

COAST OF COROMANDEL;

BY

JAMES ANDERSON,

M. D. AND A. M

PHYSICIAN GENERAL,

FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH,

OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA,

AND

MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY OF PLANTERS OF St. HELENA.

959.e18 2

MADRAS,

PRINTED BY JOSEPH MARTIN.

M.DCC.XCII.

Jos: Banks

To JAMES ANDERSON Esq.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE received the greateſt Satisfaction on receipt of your Letter and its accompanyment, two reaſons conſpire to give me pleaſure, firſt that my efforts tho' unſucceſsful have not incurred your diſſapprobation, and next am highly gratified at your perſeverance amidſt all the diſcouragements you have met with.

I will take care to ſupply the worms from the old trees, and am thankful for the Eggs of them, I will give you frequent accounts and hope I ſhall juſtify by my ultimate ſucceſs, the pains you have taken on my account.

Arnee Aug. 21ſt 1791. I am &c.

(Signed) R. MACKAY.

To SAMUEL MANESTY Esq.

Reſident at Buſſora.

SIR,

I UNDERSTAND that there has lately been ſome very fine Perſian wool ſent to England from Buſhire, and being in correſpondence with Sir John Sinclair Preſident of a Society inſtituted at Edinburgh for introducing the fineſt breeds of Sheep from all Quarters with a view to improve the Britiſh Wool.

I have taken this firſt opportunity of ſending you a copy of their Publication, convinced that it will give you pleaſure if in your power to promote the views of ſo laudable a Society, by ſending them a breed of the Sheep from which that wool is procured.

Fort St. George } I am &c.
Sept. 16th 1791. } JAMES ANDERSON.

To RICHARD MOLESWORTH Esq.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE the pleaſure to ſend you on the Swallow Packet which is under diſpatch, a Box filled with dried Specimens of Plants and Trees that have been collected at my deſire by Doctor Roxburgh, the Hon. Company's Botaniſt, and encloſe Captain Curtiſ's receipt for their delivery, together with a liſt of the different articles.

There is but the Sweitenia and a few others that have ripe Seeds, but the Seeds of the Trees ſhall be put up in the manner you direct, and ſent by ſome future conveyance.

I likewiſe encloſe a Copy of my publications for different improvements in this Country, and ſome of the Silk which I have reared in my Garden, which you may ſhew to the Society, and let me know their Sentiments on the Subject.

Fort St. George } I am &c.
Sept. 18th 1791. } JAMES ANDERSON.

TO

To JAMES ANDERSON Esq.

DEAR SIR,

AS the Eggs now laying will in all probability produce a conſiderable encreaſe of Worms, more attendance will be requiſite than I can well afford, and will when they multiply farther be totally out of my power to furniſh,—as many Gentlemen are allowed twenty people, and a leſs number would do great things here, I thought it probable you might be able to get me allowed ſome people to aſſiſt me, however be aſſured I will not relinquiſh ſuch fair hopes as preſent themſelves, without making every exertion to eſtabliſh the general culture of the Mulberry tree, and the conſequent care of this valuable Inſect.

I have eighty two Cacoons, and out of thirty four of them we have got the moth or Butterflies, theſe Seventeen pair have laid a conſiderable number of Eggs, I have promiſed part of them with written inſtructions to ſeveral Moormen and ſome Bramins, and ſhall be happy to be made the humble inſtrument of any farther improvement or extention in this effort for public good.

I am &c.

Arnee Oct. 10th 1791. R. MACKAY.

To JAMES ANDERSON Esq.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your two Publications, and thank you for the Pleaſure the peruſal of them afforded me.

I entirely agree with Mr. M xwell, that the very deſirable object of your correſpondence, might be much promoted by the Mooriſh inhabitants of this Circar, as the Superintendance of Silk worms appears to me an employ well adapted to that inertneſs of diſpoſition which renders them averſe to every kind of hard labour.

Reſt aſſured that nothing on my part ſhall be left undone that can in any degree tend to forward a ſcheme, which if vigorouſly proſecuted muſt prove highly beneficial to the community.

Chicacole Oct. 3d 1791. I remain &c.

(Signed) MICHAEL KEATING.

To MICHAEL KEATING Esq.

DEAR SIR,

I AM favored with your Letter approving of Mr. Maxwell's Idea of employing the Muſſelmen in the culture of Silk, as moſt ſuitable to their averſion of hard labour, and it may be added, that a creditable mode of procuring a comfortable Subſiſtance, will prove the moſt effectual means of preventing their engaging as Sepoys with other powers to diſturb the peace of the Country.

With a view to engage their attention to the culture of Silk as well as that of the Bramins, whoſe countenance will greatly excite the Natives, I have the pleaſure to inform you that Captain Mackay at preſent in Command of Arnee is deſtributing inſtructions in the Country Languages.

The

The attention of gentlemen out in the Country has induced me to peruse a small Book called the Chineſe Traveller, whereby it appears we ſhall here make a great ſaving of Fuel which is neceſſarily conſumed in Fires that muſt be keep'd up in the Chambers of the Silk worms, to counteract the bad effects of cold in that Climate.

The Chineſe Traveller ſpeaks of nets with large meſhes as the beſt mode of removing the worms from their litter, which I have uſed with ſucceſs, by laying a net extended betwixt four ſlender pieces of Bamboo over the worms and ſtrewing ſome freſh leaves on the net, when they ſoon crawl through the meſhes and faſten on the leaves, the Net is then remov'd to a clean Dally.

In this way a ſingle perſon can take care of an immenſe number of worms.

The Chineſe Traveller amongſt many other intereſting particulars, ſays that the Eggs are preſerved by immertion in water, ſhould this actually ſucceed it will relieve us from the only impediment I have found to the great multiplication of the worms in the hot months.

Fort St. George Oct. 15th 1791. I am &c.

(Signed) J. ANDERSON.

To JAMES ANDERSON Esq.

Dear Sir,

YOUR people Arrived with the Reel the 10th in the evening, and I ſhall give the man who is to teach us the uſe of it three fanams a day, and a Pagoda when he ſets out on his return.

Arnee Nov. 12th 1791. ROBT. MACKAY.

To Doctor JAMES ANDERSON.

Sir,

FROM a Survey made by our order of the ground poſſeſſed by you in the vicinity of Madras, the whole extent appears to be $88\frac{1}{9}$ Cawnies, and on reference to the Regiſter and tranſer Office it is found you hold only $66\frac{2}{20}$ Cawnies of the above quantity by virtue of grants immediately from government and by Purchaſe; you will therefore be pleaſed to acquaint us by what authority you poſſeſs the reſidue, being Cawnies $21\frac{11}{20}$ and at what time that ground was encloſed.

We are

Fort St. George Nov. 3d. 1791. Your moſt Obedt. Servants.

W. Petrie.

(Signed) T. Oakes.

W. Oram.

To WILLIAM PETRIE Eſq. Preſident and Members of the Board of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

I AM favored with your Letter of this date, ſtating the amount of Cawnies of ground poſſeſſed by me in the Vicinity of Madras, and requiring to know by what authority I hold a reſidue of $21\frac{11}{20}$ Cawnies above what appears to have been granted by government, and when encloſed. In

In anſwer to all which Queſtions I can only ſay, that I know of no reſidue, and to the beſt of my knowledge hold no ground that is not included in the different grants of government which have been encloſed above a dozen Years ago, but if you are ſatisfied that I hold any ground independant of the grant of government I beg you will take it away.

I am &c.

Fort St. George Nov. 3d 1791. JAMES ANDERSON.

To the Hon. SIR CHARLES OAKELY Bart. Acting Governor and Council.

Hon. Sirs,

AFTER the many Letters that have paſſed on the Subject of ground in my poſſeſſion, you will not be ſurpriſed that I lay before you the Copy of a Letter from the Board of Revenue dated the 3d Inſtant with the anſwer, in hopes you will arrange matters ſo as to clear me of any farther trouble on the ſubject of theſe grounds.

I need not urge to you, what every one knows, that theſe grounds have been recovered from the waſte, and poſſeſs no value beyond the money that has been actually employed in laying them out, nor have I derived any advantage from the poſſeſſion beyond the Idea of credit that may reſult from the experiments and diſcoveries made upon them, and communicated at different times to your Board.

I am &c.

Fort St. George Nov. 5th 1791. J. ANDERSON.

To Doctor JAMES ANDERSON.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Hon. the Preſident in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter to him of the 5th Inſtant.

He obſerves that there was a great Impropriety in encloſing any ground however Steril without the permiſſion of government, yet as he is ſenſible of the induſtry you have employed, and the expences you have incurred for its improvement, he is willing to overlook the irregularity, and orders have been given in conſequence to the Board of revenue, to comprehend this ground in your original grant.

The Preſident in Council has farther reſolved in conſideration of the active and zealous exertions which you have manifeſted in the cauſe of uſeful knowlege, to recommend it to the court of directors to relinquiſh all claim upon you for quit Rent on account of the ground in your Poſſeſſion.

I am &c.

Fort St. George Nov. 12th 1791. C. N. WHITE.

To

TO THE HONORABLE SIR CHARLES OAKELEY, Bart.

ACTING GOVERNOR and COUNCIL.

HONORABLE SIRS,

I AM favored with your letter of the 12th instant, and am much flattered by the acknowledgement of the utility of my pursuits.

Matters being so far arranged, that the mulberry plantations you have established, be rendered productive, I have the honor to acquaint you, I am ready to supply all the stations with worms immediately.

The delemma into which I have been thrown however has convinced me how futile it is for an individual to expend money for public purposes, and recommend it to your consideration to defray my future expences or indemnify the by past.

I must likewise take the liberty to relieve you from any animadvertions on the subject of ground, by assuring you that if I was sensible of possessing more than the grants specify, the respect I am ever disposed to shew Government would oblige me to point it out, as well as that my means are not equal to the original grant, and purchases I have since made.

I am with all due respect, Hon. Sirs &c.

Fort St. George, 16th Nov. 1791. JAMES ANDERSON.

TO JAMES ANDERSON ESQ.

DEAR SIR,

I WAS last night favored with your letter of the 5th instant, the worms you send shall be paid every attention to in my power, but their encreasing numbers will require the attendance of more than one person which I shall hardly be able to afford unless some allowance shall in future be made, I spoke to Mr. Dighton, but was answered that he required the orders of the Board of Revenue.

I have some hundreds of Mulberry trees, at least ten feet high which will afford cuttings enough for a great deal of ground, every thing else is as I said before ready to carry on the planting, only hands are wanted.

I am, &c.

Rampore, 11th Nov. 1791. P. DALLAS.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. POWNEY, Resident at Travancore, to Doctor BERRY, dated Cochin, 19th Nov. 1791.

"I HAVE ready for Doctor Anderson, all the trees you mention, and only wait the opportunity of sending them to him, and he may rest assured the first that offers, I shall not fail to lay hold of.

"Respecting the pepper it would appear that the Travancoreans paid attention to the sex for they generally plant three or four round a tree, those that I have conversed with upon the subject, know not why they do so further than that they observe the vines always thrive best when there are more than one planted. The pepper I have is in fine health, it requires a great deal of water, and the people here say that the produce of a good year depends upon 15 days and nights hard rain in the month of July. "The

" The vine begins to bear the Corn in four years, and they confidently ſay, that if no accident happens to the vine it will give fruit one hundred years,—great care muſt be obſerved in preſerving the root, and I remark that a mound of Earth is always raiſed about it,—the vine is planted in a wreath or circle, and not directly downwards.

" Pray give my compliments to Doctor Anderſon, and tell him I ſhall be much obliged for ſome Silk worm Eggs, we have the Mulberry here all the year that grows ſpontaneous, and I am convinced with care and attention the worms would thrive as well in this country, and be as productive as at Bengal, I have propoſed a trial of it to the Dewan of Travancore who has willingly come into the propoſal."

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON, Phyſician General.

DEAR SIR,

I SHOULD have done myſelf the pleaſure of addreſſing you on the ſubject of the Mulberry's ere now, but delayed writing in order that I might have ſomething ſatisfactory to communicate on that head.

On my application to Meſſrs. Ram and Fallofield for the neceſſary Quantity of ground requiſite for the plantation, theſe gentlemen very politely lent me every aid in procuring the grant from His Excellency the Rajah,—on getting poſſeſſion of this grant I immediately laid it out in ſuch manner as I thought beſt adapted for the culture of the Mulberry, and planted about 5,000 ſlips, the greateſt number I could procure in Tanjore, of theſe few have failed, and before the month of February, I hope to have Mulberries ſufficient to feed a pretty good ſtock of worms.

A friend of mine at Tritchinopoly has promiſed to get me a Piemonteſe reel properly conſtructed, from that ſent by you to Mr. Garrow, and accident has thrown in my way what may be of ſome ſervice in the preſent ſpeculation, a ſervant who had been long at Naples tells me he was much employed in the rearing, and taking care of Silk worms.

I am, Dear Sir, &c.

EDWARD STUART.

TO JAMES ANDERSON Eſquire.

Dear Sir,

WHEN the heavy rains commenced, I had between two and three thouſand worms ready to ſpin, and ſome of them began to form their Cacoons the firſt day of the rains, and continued daily adding to their number during the five days of wet weather, but to the moiſture of the Atmoſphere, and damp north wind, which from the nature of the building, I have them in, I could not entirely ſeclude, I attribute the Cacoons not yielding nearly ſo much Silk as before, it is however remarkable, that out of four thouſand Cacoons none are ſo yellow as thoſe of the former generation.

I am, &c.

Arnee, 29th Nov. 1791. ROBERT MACKAY.

To

TO JAMES ANDERSON ESQ.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE been favored with your Letter, forwarding a ſupply of Silk worm Eggs, for which I beg you to accept my thanks; my family have encreaſed much, and continue to multiply very faſt.

The late heavy rains however have cauſed the death of many hundred worms, which I conceive may proceed in ſome degree from the dampneſs of the walls of the Houſe which are made of Mud, in which the worms are kept.

I am yet very unſucceſsful in the buſineſs of winding off the Silk, although I have lately acquired a third perſon who was expreſly ſent as he ſays, by Tippoo to Bengal, to perfect himſelf in this branch of the buſineſs, he ſays the Silk is of a much ſlighter texture than that which he has been uſed to wind off, either in Bengal, on the Myſore country, and the Silk weavers who have attended two or three generations of the worms under me, obobſerve that the Silk firſt produced by the worms was much ſtronger than that which they now yield.

If in your power to inſtruct me in this very material point, I ſhall eſteem myſelf much obliged, for without it my zeal in the further proſecution of the buſineſs will be much damped.

I remain, &c.

Tritchinopoly, 29th Nov. 1791. ROBERT ANDREWS.

TO THE HONORABLE SIR CHARLES OAKELEY Bart.
Acting Governor and Council.

Honorable Sirs

THAT you may not be inſenſible to the cloſe attention ſo delicate a matter as the eſtabliſhment of a Silk Manufacture requires I have the honor to encloſe a Letter from Mr. Andrews at Tritchinopoly with my anſwer.

I have likewiſe the pleaſure to tell you, that Captain Mackay at Arnee, is winding Silk on a reel, which I ſent him by a native who can uſe it; and underſtand that Captain Flint ſtill preſerves the breed of worms which I ſent Mr. Anderſon at Tiagar as before ſtated.

The Eggs diſtributed during the late hot ſeaſon have hatched at ſeveral ſtations as far as Palamcotta to the ſouth, and Ganjam to the North, but loſt again for want of accommodation.

You will ſee by Mr. Andrews's Letter, that Mud walls are affected by rain, but I have deviſed a method which ſuits the nature of the worms in this climate all ſeaſons of the year, and of the moſt eaſy conſtruction, being no other than an extenſive roof ſupported on Pillars, and walled round with Bamboo matting, which is ſufficient to break the force of high winds without preventing the paſſage, and circulation of air.

A Bungalo of this ſort, in my garden, ſeventy feet in length, and fifty in breadth is now employed with every advantage, and contains a compleat eſtabliſhment, as I have placed in it, an upper ſervant, with a Dozen Children under his direction, a School Maſter to teach the Children to read, write, and keep accounts, and a Silk weaver. Some

Some of the children are not more than three years old, and yet they feed the worms, and remove them from their litter with the utmoſt care and attention, ſo prevalent is the force of imitation on innocent minds.

The buſineſs of managing the worms, and winding the ſilk requires no farther attention from me, as the latter is ſo well executed that the ſilk weaver has reeled it off again on Bobbins, and ſpun it into thread.

I therefore recommend that you cauſe a ſimilar lodgement to be erected, and a ſimilar eſtabliſhment made at every one of the Mulberry plantations, although I am ſorry to obſerve a total neglect of the wells of water, the attention to which I ſo earneſtly recommended.

I am with all due reſpect, Hon. Sirs, &c.

Fort St. George, 6th Dec. 1791. JAMES ANDERSON.

TO ROBERT ANDREWS Eſquire.

Dear Sir,

IT will be a wretched buſineſs indeed if after having done ſo much your zeal ſhould ſlacken on the obſervance of a circumſtance which all the world knows, that the Silk worm is injured by damp and wet.

In Europe there is, but one crop a year, and you ſee by Mr. Glaſs's Letter they have only three good crops in Bengal, yet here, the climate is ſo much more favorable between 70 and 100 degrees of heat, that the worms paſs through ſeven or eight evolutions, and yield more good crops than in either of thoſe countries.

The Silk of my laſt breed on the ſetting in of the rains, was like yours, much worſe than ever I had ſeen it, nevertheleſs I made the Boys wind it of as well as they could and the Silk weaver has twiſted it into excellent Thread of which I am making a purſe

It is not only the damp and wet but a foul air is likewiſe generated thereby, which kills the worms, and as they decline in health the quality of the Silk is affected, however although the rains have continued in a more violent degree than has been known for many years by paſt, by directing a greater attention to the neatneſs and airing of the houſe in which they are, although likewiſe wall'd with Mud, my preſent breed are perfectly healthy and now Spining the moſt beautiful Cocoons, I therefore truſt that you will not be diſcouraged, but depend on a zeal and attention like yours being crowned with uncommon ſucceſs.

I have found Nets to Shift the worms from their litter very convenient and uſeful, as it is only neceſſary to lay the net upon the worms and freſh leaves upon the net and as ſoon as they have faſtened on the leaves to remove them with the net to a clean baſket.

In this way one perſon will do more in clearing the worms from litter and with greater eaſe than twenty could before the nets came into uſe.

I am &c.

Fort St. George Dec. 1792. JAMES ANDERSON.

TO DR. JAMES ANDERSON PHYSICIAN GENERAL.

Dear Sir,

I have the pleaſure to inform you that I have got five on ſix hundred worms from the laſt ſupply of Eggs you was ſo good as honor me with. By

By your remark on the paper they were laid the 26th of Nov. they hatched on the 6th, 7th, and 8th, of this month, the worms are very ſtrong and healthy and I have no doubt of ſucceſs. I have the honor to be &c.

Vellore Dec. 14th 1791 (ſigned JAMES RAMSAY.

TO DOCTOR ANDERSON PHYSICIAN GENERAL.

Dear Sir,

THE late Monſoon which has been extremely heavy in this part of the country, having diſtroyed nearly the whole of our ſilk worm Eggs, I am induced to have recourſe to your goodneſs for reparation of the loſs by requeſting you will oblige us with another ſupply of Eggs, and as Capt. Flint is deſirous of having a large quantity of ſilk, with a view of getting it Manufactured in this neighbourhood, you will excuſe my requeſting as abundant a ſupply as you can conveniently ſpare.

We have now four reels at Tiagar, two of which have been made ſince the receipt of your favor of the 10th Sept. and which laſt two are of the dimenſions therein recommended.

Tiagar 14th Dec. 1791. I am with much reſpect &c:

(ſigned) GEORGE ANDERSON.

TO Mr. GEORGE ANDERSON.

Dear Sir,

SINCE the theremometer has been below ninety degrees, the Eggs of the ſilk worms that from the middle of March till the middle of Nov, began to hatch on the ſixth day after they were laid, are now ten days, and as the cold encreaſes will ſtill be later.

Although rain and wet is hurtful to the worms, it is perhaps a good preſervative of Eggs which I have found injured by the dry land wind, and have no doubt that the Eggs you imagine are ſpoiled will prove good—The Ephemeris, Moſquitoe, and many winged Inſects; not only hatch but live in water till their full growth.

I however enclose you two ſheets of Cartridge Paper, covered with Eggs laid laſt night to enſure a ſufficient breed; and will be obliged by your remarking the time when they begin to hatch. I am &c.

Fort St. George Dec. 18th 1791. JAMES ANDERSON.

TO THE HONORABLE SIR CHARLES OAKELEY Bart.

Honorable Sirs ACTING GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

I intend ſoon to cut down my Mulberry plantation that young ſhoots from the ſtock may furniſh tender leaves for the nouriſhment of the ſilk worms, and as only fourteen villages of the home farms were ſupplied laſt year with cuttings, in caſe you mean to pay any attention to this ſubject, I would recommend that the opportunity of getting cuttings from my Garden at this moſt favorable ſeaſon for planting them may not be loſt, and that a ſmall ſpot of ground be forthwith laid out at each of the remaining forty villages which I ſhall ſeverally ſupply at your requiſition with five or ſix hundred cuttings each.

In the ſame manner the different Stations will deſtribute the Mulberry that the moment you come to the reſolution of cultivating Silk, it may be general and effectual.

I am with all due reſpect, Honorable Sirs &c.

Fort St. George January 4th 1792. JAMES ANDERSON.

To

TO THE HONORABLE SIR CHARLES OAKELEY BART.
ACTING GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

Honorable Sirs

THE Phœnix being hourly expected from Bengal on her way to England, I muſt beg leave to advert to your declaration regarding the poſſeſſion of ground in the vicinity of Madras.

As I am not at all flattered by the idea of an irregularity even on account of public zeal, you will be pleaſed to ſtate to the Honorable the Court of directors; that the report of the meaſurement taken at the iſſue of the grants, and that taken by your orders (in neither of which I had any concern) diſagree; and hope that no reference of this kind is propoſed with a view to delay the full eſtabiſhment of the culture of Silk on the Coaſt.

Fort St. George January 5th 1792. I am with all due reſpect
Honorable Sirs &c.
JAMES ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR ANDERSON PHYSICIAN GENERAL.

Dear Sir,

YOUR favor with the Silk worm Eggs I had the pleaſure of receiving yeſterday and on opening the packet found ſeveral inſects in each paper hatched, tho it is only nine days ſince the Eggs were laid; the Eggs I before wrote you had failed have been carefully preſerved but ſtill remain without hatching.

I received a Letter from Government on the 24th ultimo, requiring a report to be made of the ſtate and expence of the Mulberry Plantation at Tiagar, and the coſt of erecting a ſimilar Bungalo to that diſcribed in your Letter to Government of the ſixth ultimo, an extract of which was incloſed to me—I herewith ſend you a copy of my anſwer to Government.

There has not above half a dozen worms been hatched to day and from the appearance of the Eggs which are all much flattened, we apprehend moſt of them will fail, owing probably to their having been bruiſed in the Tappall.

Tiagar Dec. 27th 1791. I am Dear Sir &c.
GEORGE ANDERSON.

TO ROBT. CLERK Eſq.

Sir.

I had the honor of receiving your letter requiring a report to be made of the ſtate and expence of the Mulberry Plantation of Tiagar.

I beg you will make known to the Hon. the Governor in Council, that as no ground has yet been allotted for that purpoſe, no expence has been incurred to Government on account of the Mulberry Plantation here, which is the property of Capt. Flint and ſupported at his own expence, from whom I can get a ſufficiency of cuttings to cover any quantity of ground that may be appropriated to that uſe, and as that Gentleman has conſtructed reels and trained Children to take care of the worms and wind off the Silk to enable Government to form a judgement of the progreſs, a couple of ſmall ſkaines wound off by his people are encloſed—that marked No. I being ſuch as is recommended by Doctor Anderſon, and No. II ſuch as the Weavers in this diſtrict approve and will be able to manufacture.

If

If Government ſhould think proper to promote the culture of Silk at Tiagar, it may be carried forward extenſively in a ſhort time as every thing is already in great preparation.

The expence of erecting a tiled roof on Brick Pillars with walls of Bamboo matting, ſeventy feet in length and fifty in breadth, will amount to the ſum of four hundred and twenty five (425) Star Pagodas.

Tiagar Dec. 25th 1791. I have the honor to be Sir &c,

GEORGE ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON.

SIR,

I AM directed to tranſmit you the encloſed copy of a letter from the Sub-Secretary at Fort William, and to requeſt you will furniſh the Governor in Council with a ſample of the ſilk with the information required, as far as it may be in your power to ſtate it,

Fort St. George 7th Jan. 1792. I am Sir &c.

ROBERT CLERK.
Dep. Sec.

TO C. N. WHITE Eſq. SECRETARY AT FORT Sr. GEORGE.

SIR,

THE Board of Trade here having expreſſed a deſire to ſee ſome of the ſilk produced in the Carnatic, I have the directions of the Governor General in Council, to requeſt that the Madras government will give orders for the tranſmiſſion of a ſample thereof accompanied by the information of the rate at which its coſt is eſtimated.

Council Chamber 14th Dec. 1791. I am SIR &c

J. L. CHAUVET
(a true copy) Sub. Sec.
ROBERT CLERK
Dep. Sec.

TO THE HON. SIR CHARLES OAKELEY BART.
ACTING GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

HON. SIRS,

I AM favoured with your letter of the ſeventh inſtant, and pleaſed to ſee the adminiſtration of Bengal ſolicitous about a buſineſs of a few months ſtanding on the coaſt, becauſe an infant eſtablſhment ſuch as the culture of ſilk here ſhould be cheriſhed with maternal care.

Perſons ſo well acquainted however with every part of the buſineſs of rearing ſilk, muſt be ſenſible of the impoſſibility of determining any thing regarding the expence, till ſuch time as the culture is fully known, and generally eſtabliſhed.

You will ſee by a letter from Mr. Anderſon at Tiagar to Mr. Dep. Sec. Clerk of the 25th ultimo, that you are poſſeſſed of two ſkains of ſilk made at that place, which may be ſent to Bengal, as what I had of my own growth is twiſted into thread, of which I have the honor to encloſe a ſample.

Hon. Sirs &c.

Fort St. George Jan. 9th 1792. J. ANDERSON.

TO

TO THE HON. SIR CHARLES OAKELEY BART.
ACTING GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL.

HON. SIRS,

HAVING juſt received a very ſatisfactory account from Mr. Corbett who went to Bengal at his own requeſt to make enquiries into the cultivation of ſilk there, and to whom you gave letters of introduction; I beg leave to tranſmit an extract, in hopes that you will take the means of bearing the neceſſary expences, with which his journey may be attended.

Fort St. George 13th Jan. 1792. I am with all due reſpect, Hon. Sirs, &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

"I ARRIVED here on the 17th of November, and delivered my letter to Mr. Hay, on the 21ſt.—I had no anſwer till the 8th of December, therefore did not do myſelf the pleaſure of writing to you till I had ſomething to inform you of regarding the buſineſs I came here for.

"The Supreme Board referred me to the Board of Trade, and they have given me letters to the different Silk agents who are eight in number Guntia, Radnagur, Coſſimbuzar and Jungipore, on this ſide of the great river,—Malda, Commercaully, Bauliah and Rungpore, the laſt is the place where the beſt Silk is made, but it is ſo far from Calcutta, and the journey is ſo expenſive that I ſhall not be able to viſit it.

"Mr. John Brittow an old Friend of mine, who is Senior Member of the Board of Trade, treats me with great Friendſhip and procures me every information on the Article of the Silk inveſtment, which he tells me is of the firſt and greateſt conſequence to the Company, and therefore the directors give every poſſible encouragement for its ſucceſs, and I have got all the different orders for the regulation of the Silk inveſtment—I have ſhewn your Silk to Mr. Fruſhard the Superintendant and others—they ſay as to its quality it is equal to any they have ever ſeen, but that it is ſpoiled in being taken from the reel before it was thoroughly dry, which is a very material detriment, as by that it loſes its fine gloſs and colour—here they have Ovens on purpoſe to dry it on the reels which gives it that ſtrong wirey ſubſtance and renders it preferable in all the European Markets.

"You ſhould take all poſſible care of the white worm, for that Silk is worth eight Shillings a pound more than the yellow, Mr. Fruſhard informs me, that the whole inveſtment of laſt year was Sold at 27 Shillings the great pound.

"The Gentlemen deſire very much to ſee ſome of your Cocoons, as they can be better judges of our progreſs, and the advantages the climate on the Coaſt has over that of Bengal, as the Fogs, and a wind they call Tuffoon often kills all their worms in one night.

"I can aſſure you that your Cocoons are one third larger than any that I have ſeen here, but the Gentlemen will not believe it poſſible, therefore Sir I pray be kind enough to ſend ſome of both ſorts by the firſt Ship—be careful that the worm in the Cocoons is killed in an Oven, they never wind the Silk here till they are ſure the worm is dead, if they do it is not half ſo valuable, and they give it the name of Green Silk.

"I have been indiſpoſed for ſome days paſt, and am ſo ſtill, when recovered I ſhall ſet out on my intended Tour to the Filatures.

Calcutta, 31ſt December 1791."

To the Hon. SIR CHARLES OAKELEY Bart. Acting Governor and Council.

Hon. Sirs,

I HAVE the pleaſure to encloſe a large parcel of ſilk, being part of ſome ſent me by Captain Mackay at Arnee, in hopes that you will defray his expences in the ſame proportion as thoſe of the other ſuperintendants.

I have the ſame requeſt to make in favor of Lieut. Dallas commanding Rampore, as both theſe gentlemen have diſcovered much attention, and excelled the moſt ſanguine expectations in the proſecution of this Buſineſs at their own expences.

The overflowing of the great Tank at Chingleput by the late heavy rains, has entirely Swept away the Plantation there, but Mr. Skardon is again laying out a Garden granted by the Inhabitants in a more favorable ſituation and will not make any charge for that which is loſt, of which you will approve.

Fort St. George Jan. 17th 1792. I am &c.

J. ANDERSON.

Extract of a Letter from George Wynch Eſq. Collector:

Dated Carroor, Dec. 31ſt. 1791.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON,

I TAKE this opportunity of ſending you a ſmall quantity of wheat the produce of the Gnandimungalum Hills, I never ſaw any ſimilar to it before, having two ſeeds in a huſk common to both, therefore conceive it will be acceptable to you——I purpoſe very ſhortly beginning an extenſive Mulberry Plantation—I ſhall ſend you in a little time a curious fruit the product of Verapatchy, which in taſte reſembles a Medlar, although of the Plumb-tribe.——The enemy having ſo often over-run the diſtricts under me have prevented an earlier cultivation of the Mulberry Tree. We have very large Lemons in the neighbourhood, as big again as thoſe that come from Liſbon, if they would be acceptable, I will ſend them to you."

Extract of a Letter from Richard Moleſworth, Eſq.

To Doctor Anderſon: Dated London, Aug. 2d. 1791.

"YOU ſhall have the beſt model of a Silk-Reel that I can get made in London: I have applied to the moſt experienced people.

"The work of the Ladies of Madras was much admired here, and the white Silk is very curious: in the Madras News-papers, I ſaw an account of your indefatigable labours in the endeavour to extend various branches of the commerce of your Country."

TO

TO RICHARD MOLESWORTH, ESQ.

DEAR SIR,

I AM favored with your letter of the 2d. of Auguſt laſt, and am ſorry you have been diſappointed in the Teak and Cinnamon trees which I ſent you laſt year.

An Alligator Pear Tree however having been ſent me by Colonel Kydd of Bengal in a box of a new conſtruction, in which I ſuffered it to remain three months in the ſhade before it was ſet out in the open ground, where it ſtill continues healthy: I have directed two ſuch boxes to be made, in which 2 Teak and 2 Cinnamon Trees ſhall be planted; and as Captain Gerrard has obligingly promiſed me to take particular care of them, I have no doubt, you will receive them both ſafe on the arrival of the Deptford.

If they are ſent to the Weſt Indies they will ſoon yield ſeeds, my Cinnamon and Bread Fruit tree are already in Flower, and the Teak gives ripe ſeeds in eight or ten years.

You will ſee by my correſpondence laſt year, that we have conſtructed Reels here, which anſwer very well, as the ſkaines made on them are afterwards placed by the Silk weaver on a reel made of five ſlender pieces of Bamboo, with a thread ſtretched from the eight extremities of four of the pieces in the manner of the Braces of a drum, and ſerve as the Flies of this ſimple reel; the fifth piece of Bamboo being the pivot or center.

From this reel he winds the ſilk on bobbins with the utmoſt facility, and no ſilk can poſſibly work more freely, but when your model arrives I ſhall pay every attention in my power to adopt the whole or any part of its conſtruction to the improvement of this buſineſs, as it is of much conſequence to introduce the beſt mode in a Country where the people are much influenced by cuſtom.

The attention you have paid to my requeſt in the promiſe of a reel, induces me to hope that this country having the thermometer always between 70 and a hundred degrees, may rival the greateſt Eſtabliſhments in the culture of Silk; in Bengal I believe the heat is ſometimes greater and in China much leſs.

Fort St. George Jan. 19th 1792. I am &c.

J. ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON.

Dear Sir,

I WROTE to Mr. Berry three days ago, and told him that on that day ſome young Cypreſs trees had arrived from Aurungabad, my Couſin Captain Binny being juſt arrived alſo, I deemed it beſt to ſend them by him, being ſatisfied every poſſible care would be taken of them: they are at leaſt forty in number, and I hope few, if any, will be loſt on the paſſage.

I truſt we ſhall go on ſucceſsfully with the Silk worms, as the breed are preſerved, and by the aſſiſtance of Lieut. Freeman, a penſioned officer here, the Silk has been wound off on the new Piemonteſe reel which you gave me.

Maſulipatnam 18th Jan. 1792. I am &c.

GEORGE BINNY.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from MAJOR ROBSON, dated St. HELENA 2d. July 1791.

"IT was with infinite ſatisfaction I received your kind letter of the 15th, February laſt. We received the Plants &c. for the Planters ſociety, and the Governor placed them under the care of Mr. Porteus."

TO JAMES ANDERSON ESQ.

Dear Sir,

THE Eggs you were kind enough to ſend me from Madras, arrived apparently ſafe. About 80 of the white Silk ones ſoon hatched, but none of the yellow have yet produced; and as I abide ſtrictly by your inſtructions, I cannot account for this failure.

The white worms went through their natural tranſformations, and appeared large and healthy—they produced the encloſed quantity of Silk and are now again in Eggs.

I fear you will find the Silk very deficient having been wound off upon a common reel, but I have now one of the form you deſcribe, and as my people begin to underſtand the proceſs, my next attempt in the Filature, I truſt will be more abundant and better prepared.

The Mulberry cuttings which I at firſt planted between each row of the Cinnamon, ſhot ſuch extenſive roots, and grew ſo luxuriantly, as to check the growth of the Cinnamon, and compel me to remove them: I have now diſtributed the Mulberry about my grounds and they are thriving rapidly.

Yeſterday I had the honor of addreſſing Government upon the ſubject, and encloſing an eſtimate of the building recommended.

If you can furniſh me with another paper of the yellow Silk worm Eggs, I will thank you.

Palamcotta, 19th. January 1792. I am &c.

G. S. MARTIN.

TO

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON.

Dear Sir,

MR. ANDREWS and I have this instant returned from a trip to Allitory a village about four miles distant from this, where there is a garden belonging to the Nabob, in which we have found eight or ten Bread fruit trees, two of which are very stately and have fruit upon them which is about the size of my clenched fist, and externally has the appearance of a young Jack.

The fruit grows from near the top of the branch and comes out of a sheath.

The branch on being broken exudes a viscid milky juice.

The leaf resembles a good deal a Fig leaf, but is much longer and more sinuated.

By this Tappall, I send you two of the leaves enclosed in a sheet of paper.

I have sent for a Mootchy to make a drawing of a branch from the tree with the fruit upon it, from its appearance I imagine it may be propagated by cuttings in the same manner, and as easy as the Fig.

Mr. Andrews says he was informed that the trees were brought from the Travancore Country, five or six of the trees have been much mutilated and their branches cut away.

It exactly corresponds in appearance, with the description and figure in Cooks Voyage where he found it at Otaheite or King George the 3d, island, I have brought with me some young shoots which I have ordered to be planted in my garden, the leaves I have sent you are not above half the length that some on the tree are, as the latter could not be so easily packed for the Tappall——however they will be fully sufficient for you to ascertain that it is the tree.

Tritchinopoly, 20th Jan. 1792. I am &c.

NICOL MEIN.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON.

Dear Sir,

I HAD the pleasure of sending you by the Tappall yesterday two leaves of the Bread Fruit tree, of which I also gave you some account in my letter.

I now send you a drawing of a branch from the tree, and shall in a day or two send you another drawing with the fruit upon it, which I would have done to day, but did not choose to take off a branch with the fruit, without having obtained permission of the Nabob's Son Hussein ul Mulk.

Mr. Trotter Surgeon, acquaints me there are a great number of these trees that produce fruit in the Coimbatore country, and at Coimbatore itself, we have now a prodigious increase of Silk worms at Warriore, that are in a very healthy state and produce a strong yellow Silk, since the Cessation of the rains.

Tritchinopoly, 21st Jan. 1792. I am &c.

NICOL MEIN.

TO

TO SIR JOSEPH BANKS Bart.

Dear Sir,

BELEIVING that it may be of useful consequence to the public, I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the Bread Fruit Tree has been found in several of the Southern parts of the Peninsula, as you will see by the two letters I have just received from Mr. Mein Head Surgeon at Tritchinopoly, of which I enclose copies with the drawing which he transmitted me along with them.

Since the impression of my last Publication, which was made a few days ago, and of which I have sent you Copies, both on the Phœnix and Deptford, I have received accounts of the success of the Silk worms at Palamcotta and Masulipatam, as well as of the recovery of those that had been diseased by the late rains at Tritchinopoly, So that a breed of this Insect is already established in an extent of six hundred miles upon the Coast, but it will rest with the Company to render it productive.

The incursions of the Enemys horse has prevented me from exploring the Country, and therefore I hope you have received the white Lac, which I sent by Captain Cuningham.

As you have no doubt heard of the success of our Arms in Maissore, I must acquaint you that in our new Conquest of Bangalore, the Mercury in the Thermometer is at 57 in the morning, and 71 or 72 at noon; at this season.

Fort St. George Jan. 26th 1792. I am &c.

J. ANDERSON.

TO JAMES ANDERSON Esq.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE lately received a Letter from Government through their Deputy Secretary Mr. Clerk, covering an extract from your address to them of the 6th Dec. and directing me to send an estimate of the Cost of such a Building as you have therein described, which I am now preparing to do; you will have the goodness to excuse my having been so long silent on a subject you have so much at heart, as our progress in the culture of the Mulberry Plant and the introduction of the Silk worm on account of the badness of the Season, and troubles in this district, which have encreased the vexations and difficulties of my station in a tenfold proportion.

I am concerned to inform you that all the Eggs sent to us from Bengal have fail'd, owing as I conclude to some injury they received in the carriage hither—indeed it was very perceptible they were very much flattened and pressed by the package, to which cause I am inclined to attribute their failure.

As this happened too late in the Season to leave us any hope of breeding the worm last year; I thought it best to let my Mulberry Plantation, or as it may be called with more propriety Nursery run up to serve for future cuttings, which it is now capable of Supplying to the number of some

Thousands,

Thousands, the plants being from ten to twelve feet in height, and Shooting out in every direction, from which you will perceive that there has been no inattention on my part, and had the eggs that were sent us hatched, I have no doubt, we should have made such a progress as would have been highly pleasing to you.

We depend upon you to remedy this misfortune by sending us a fresh supply of Eggs by the earliest opportunity, in the management of which I hope we shall be more successful.

(Signed)

Itchapore Jan. 11th 1792. NATHANIEL WEBB.

TO NICOL MEIN Esq.

DEAR SIR,

YOUR Letter with the drawing of the Bread Fruit Tree did not arrive time enough for the Packet, but I immediately sent a copy of both your Letters with the drawing which you sent enclosed, to Sir Joseph Banks, time enough to reach Captain Gerrard before he got on board, thinking it of consequence to be known in England.

The Slips you have taken will not grow unless they are Shoots from the root, and that you have removed the root along with them, for neither the Bread Fruit nor our common Jack, which are both of the same genus (viz) artocarpus, can be propagated by this means nor by the Chinese method of potting as it is called in England.

The Jack indeed is readily propagated by Seeds, but I do not understand that ever the Artocarpus Incisa, or Bread Fruit has been raised in this way.

The only method of procuring a Multiplication of the Trees, is to lay the roots bare, by removing the earth round an old Tree and cutting through one or two roots, or as many as may be cut without Injury to the Trunk, and raising the upper extremity of the cut root above ground, where it should remain till it sends out a stem two or three feet in height, for if the root is dug up at an earlier period, the young stem is so succulent and tender it is very apt to decay.

I have been so particular that you may communicate with the gentlemen in the Coimbatore country and procure as many young trees as possible.

The Reverend Mr. John, and some philosophical gentlemen at Tranquebar are the first Europeans who have cultivated this tree on the coast and by their means, Mr. Roxburgh I believe was supplied with some plants which he sent to England, which were said to come originally from Ceylon; but as Mr. Andrews has traced it from Travancore, where Mr. Alex. Anderson found it under the name of the Maldive Jack, it is probably a native of the Indian as well as pacific Ocean, although the uses to which it may be applied in the œconomy of humane life, might still have remained unknown but for these southern voyages.

Notwithstanding

Notwithstanding what I have said about its propagation, when the Fruit is ripe, I could wish you to examine it and see if there is any thing like kernals or seeds, that you may likewise try if it can be raised from seeds: it thrives best on the same kind of soil as the Jack, which is the red Volcanic Earth near the foot of the Hills, and a higher level than to admit standing water in the Monsoon.

I am &c.

Fort St. George, Jan. 29th 1792. JAMES ANDERSON.

TO GEORGE SULIVAN MARTIN Esq.

Dear Sir,

I AM greatly obliged by your envoy of Silk which indeed is very beautiful and may be easily worked into any use when you get my reel erected.

As you have been so successful, I must request you will send some of the first Eggs you may have to Mr. Powney at Travancore who I beleive is still at Cochin, at any rate continue to send him some of every generation till they are established in Travancore; as he wishes much to forward so valuable a Manufacture.

You will see by the enclosed Papers that your white Silk is much more valuable than the yellow, nevertheless, I shall send you some Eggs of the yellow in a few days,

I am &c.

Fort St. George, 27th Jan. 1792. JAMES ANDERSON.

TO CAPTAIN ROBERT MACKAY.

Dear Sir,

I RETURN you some of the beautiful Silk, you sent me twisted into thread, and in quantity sufficent to make a large purse, but the weaver has twilted it too hard and hurt the Gloss of the Silk.

Your number four which I sent to Government was equal to any I have had, either in strength, beauty or the workmanship on the Reel.

I am &c.

Fort St, George Jan. 27th 1792. JAMES ANDERSON.

TO JAMES ANDERSON Esq.

Dear Sir,

MR. MEIN has before written you on our Notion of having discovered the Bread fruit Tree; he has sent you a leaf thereof, and this day sends you a drawing of a branch of the tree, with a representation of the Fruit.

I now forward to you in a small Box, a bud which appears to shoot out like Indian Corn and you will observe the young Fruit enclosed therein.

I remain, &c.

Tritchinopoly, 23th Jan. 1792. ROBERT ANDREWS.

TO ROBERT ANDREWS Esquire.

Dear Sir,

I AM just favored with your Letter, and the bud of tne Bread Fruit Tree with the Fruit, which appears singular, as nature has been more careful

of

of this than of moſt other Trees, in defending every leaf, with two ſpathæ or Sheaths in the manner that the Flowers of ſome Trees, the palms particularly, are defended, or like the Indian Corn you mention.

Mr. Miens Letters, and the firſt drawing were juſt time enough to go this morning on the Depthford to Sir Joſeph Banks, the ſecond drawing of the Fruit muſt wait ſome future opportunity.

I rely on your care as well as his to multiply the plants of this very valuably Tree (of which we have only three at Madras) for which purpoſe, I have written him directions by this Tappall which he will ſhew you.

I am, &c.

Fort St. George Jan. 27th 1792. JAMES ANDERSON.

TO GEORGE POWNEY Eſq. Reſident, Travancore.

Dear Sir.

I TOLD you in my laſt that Dr. Anderſon would take the earlieſt opportunity of ſupplying you with Eggs of the ſilk worm, and he has this day written to Mr. Martin at Palamcotta to forward them to you by every opportunity till the worms are fully eſtabliſhed. You will ſee by the enclоſed copy of correſpondence juſt publiſhed, what expectations he has of your ſucceſs, and hopes that the utility of your communication will ſufficiently excuſe him for the liberty he has taken in publiſhing it, and that you will occaſionally favor him with an account of your progreſs.

We have lately underſtood that the Bread Fruit Tree is growing in different places to the Southward, particularly at Tritchinopoly and Coimbatore. Thoſe at Tritchinopoly are ſaid to have been brought from Travancore where I underſtand they are known by the name of Maldive Jack, the Fruit very much reſembling a Jack, only much ſmaller. I ſhall be much obliged to you for any information on this ſubject.

Yours &c.

Fort St. George Jan. 27th 1792 ANDREW BERRY.

TO JAMES ANDERSON ESQ.

DEAR SIR,

I OUGHT before now to have corrected my miſtake in ſaying I had only five or ſix hundred worms from the Eggs you ſent me, whereas I had a thouſand and upwards, they have thriven aſtoniſhingly well, produced Cacoons, and the Moths are now laying their Eggs, from which I ſhall have a very numerous progeny.

They are all of the white, and moſt valuable Silk, but unavoidable Avocations have prevented me from having much of the Silk wound off which indeed I did not think of much conſequence, being more ſolicitous of the propagation, and afraid of killing the grub.

Captain Mackay was ſo good as to ſend me his reel for a model, which I have ſhown to the beſt Carpenters here, and Mr. Toriano the Paymaſter has moſt readily furniſhed me with Teak-wood, ſo that with the aſſiſtance of Lieut. O'Beirne a Gentleman of Mechanical knowledge, I hope to have a much better conſtructed Machine than the model—the Plates of Iron,

through

through which the threads now pass to the Reel, are to be of Ivory, and if there are any improvements worth your notice I shall not fail to communicate them.

By order of Government I have given in an estimate for a Bungalo, such as your's at Pags 300: we might also very easily have the establishment you mention, either of European half Cast, or Native Children, the latter might be employed for forty Cash or a penny farthing each per day; I expected before now to have had the orders of Government on this subject.

I am &c.

Vellore, Jan. 27th, 1792. JAMES RAMSAY.

TO JAMES ANDERSON Esqr.

Dear Sir,

I RECEIVED much pleasure from your favor of the 27th. and its enclosures, and am truly happy to find we have been so successful in not having been exceeded in the quality of our Silk, as your approbation was what I chiefly had in view; I am highly gratified in receiving it, and hope our next production will be more worthy your commendation.

With the Natives, if you wish to do them a benefit, you must not proffer it, but by degrees evince them of the utility of the measure and the probable pecuniary advantages that will attend the prosecution.—In pursuance of this System I never sollicited any of the Inhabitants here to take Eggs, or Worms, but am now importuned by them, and have set many in consequence to work in cultivating the Mulberry Tree.

As a primary step to comply with applications from one or two respectable quarters, I could wish you would assist me with a few more Eggs, as I do not wish to reduce my stock, if you will send half of the white and half of the yellow sort I will be very thankful: the latter being more immediately taking, and more productive with them, as the yellow Silk is much used to ornament the borders of Womens Cloths.

I am, &c.

Arnee, 30th Jan. 1792. ROBERT MACKAY.

TO JAMES ANDERSON ESQ.

Dear Sir,

I ACCEPT with great pleasure the commission you have favored me with, to enquire respecting the Bread Fruit-Tree—The enclosed Extract of a Letter to Dr. Mein will shew you what steps I have taken to promote the inquiry, I shall also write to Coimbatore on the Subject, as it is said that the Bread Fruit Tree grows in that district, but I did not see it in any part which I pass'd thro' in August last, and I went thro' very fine and highly cultivated spots near the Hills and return'd thro' the center of the district.

I am &c.

Dindigul, 5th Feb. 1792. ALEXANDER MACLEOD.

« I

" I have been favored with a Letter from Dr. Anderſon, in which he deſires me to inform him if the Bread Fruit Tree is to be found in or near this diſtrict—His Letter is accompanied by copies of the two Letters you wrote to him reſpecting the Bread Fruit Tree near Tritchinopoly, but the deſcription of it in your Letters, tho' perfectly clear to me will not I fear be ſufficiently ſo for the Natives whom I ſhall employ in Searching for it.

I therefore take the liberty of reqeſting that you will employ ſome Perſon to make a coloured drawing of its Fruit, Bloſſom, and Leaf, of the natural ſize, and forward it to me by the Tappall, together with a meaſurement of the general height of the Tree, by the help of which I ſhall probably be able to give Dr. Anderſon, a ſatisfactory Anſwer to his enquiries."

TO NATHANIEL WEBB Eſquire.

Dear Sir,

AS I underſtood there was a famine in your Circar, I did not preſume to trouble you with the Eggs of Silk worms in the late cold ſeaſon when they might have been ſafely conveyed to even a greater diſtance under cover of a letter, for it is needleſs to ſuppoſe that they are bruiſed when we every day ſee theſe Eggs that get addled, from any cauſe whatever ſoon flatten and Collapſe without any external preſſure.

I know that there are Mulberry Trees enough in your diſtrict to ſupply leaves for a large inveſtment of Silk, but the diſtreſs of the inhabitants I am truly ſenſible muſt have involved you in an infinite deal of trouble and anxiety.

I will only obſerve that nothing appears to me ſo well calculated, to obviate the frequent repetition of ſuch weighty calamities as a diverſity of employment for the lower claſſes of the people.

No real attempts having ever been made to better the Natives, and their whole ſubſiſtance conſiſting of grain, which can only be raiſed by rain happening to fall at certain ſtated ſeaſons, it is obvious that if we can enable them by the circulation of caſh, which muſt attend the culture of Silk to purchaſe grain from other countries when their own crop fails we ſhall render an eſſential ſervice to the humane race here.

I will not farther obtrude on your cares, than to tell you, that whenever you are ſufficiently diſengaged, Mr. Binny or Mr. Roxburgh will ſupply you with Eggs, or which is much nearer you Mr. Haliburton at Vizagapatnam, to whom I mean to forward ſome in a few days, and your eſtabliſhing the Bungalo will at leaſt ſave a dozen children from being ſtarved.

Fort St. George, 15th Feb. 1791. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

To

TO JAMES RAMSAY ESQ.

My Dear Sir,

I AM favored with your letter of the 27th ultimo, and with regard to the Bungaloes, and the eſtabliſhment which I recommended on the 6th of December laſt, ſeeing that Government inſtead of ordering them as I expected, only thought proper to canvaſs the expence, a loſs of time is thereby incurred which cannot be recalled, and therefore it is of little uſe to ſay any thing about the choice of half caſt European or compleat Native children for the eſtabliſhment.

As your plantation however muſt now be in a ſtate of conſiderable repair, I would recommend, that you rather propoſe a reduction of five gardiners from the preſent eſtabliſhment, and that you may have liberty to hire ten or twelve Native children with the wages, which theſe five gardiners had, which will enable you to gather leaves, to feed the worms, and to ſhift them from their litter compleatly.

Fort St. George, 15th Feb. 1792. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON.

Sir,

THE Supercargoes at Canton, having in conſequence of an application made by this Government at your recommendation ſent here on the Ship General Abercrombie eight boxes containing 200 Tallow trees, and 200 Lacquered trees, I am directed to acquaint you that the commander will be directed to deliver thoſe Plants to your charge.

Fort St. George, 14th Feb. 1792. I am &c.

ROBERT CLERK, Dep Sec.

TO THE HONORABLE SIR CHARLES OAKELEY, Bart.

ACTING GOVERNOR and COUNCIL.

HONORABLE SIRS,

I AM favored with your notice of the arrival of trees, which are no doubt thoſe I recommended to be ſent from China, but as it appears by your correſpondence with Doctor Berry that you diſapprove of a Botanical Garden, and expect that he will only take care of the Nopals, I am totally at a loſs how to diſpoſe of them.

I can only ſay that the introduction of Cochineal is a diſtant object, and the Garden at Marmalon may be uſefully employed as I have long ago ſtated to your Board, and as the Honorable the Court of Directors have approved in ordering theſe plants from China, I am enabled to recommend him to take care of them, till your farther pleaſure is known.

As the Gentlemen at the Factory have ſo handſomely acquitted themſelves, I muſt recommend, that in your firſt letter to Canton you will deſire plants of the Can-la-chu and Choui-la-chu mentioned in my letter to your Board 24th November 1789, to be ſent here.

As there are now plantations of Mulberry's through the whole extent of the Coaſt, and as it will be of good conſequence to extend the cultivation of the Nopal at thoſe places, where it may be cultivated, without any additional expence, I ſhould be glad that you give directions to the Poſtmaſter General to receive letters, weighing eight ounces, which will enable me to tranſmit them.

I

I expect that you will favor me with a list of the Superintendants of Mulberry Plantations, and an account of the charges they have made.

Fort St. George, 15th Feb. 1792. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO EDWARD STUART ESQ.

Dear Sir,

AS this is about the time you allotted for the preparation of your plantation, I enclose you some eggs of the worm producing White Silk, the Yellow you may get from Mr. Andrews at Tritchinopoly as mine are only hatching, and will not be in the egg again for a month to come.

I could wish you to pay as much attention to the care and preservation of the Yellow as the White sort, as it appears by a letter from Captain Mackay at Arnee that the Natives will prefer the Yellow to the White, on account of the use it is applied to in their manufactures.

I have no doubt but that Government will soon order your collectors to make Plantations themselves, agreeable to my recommendation in the first opening of this business, as no part of the coast is better adapted to the culture of the Mulberry than the Tanjore Country, where too many hands can never be employed nor too many plantations made.

Fort St. George, Feb 17th, 1792. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO ALEX. MACLEOD ESQ.

Dear Sir,

I am truely sensible of your ready attention to my request of searching for the Bread Fruit Tree, as the mode you have adopted will readily discover it.

Mr. Lickie who lately travelled through your part of the country in his journey from Europe, knew the Tree in my garden at first sight, and tells me that he saw several of them in Mr. Martins plantation at Palamcottah.

The Tree I have likewise heard say, grows on the Island of Elmiseram, as well as at the Fort of Palicatcherry, and that the streets of Cochin are planted with it, in which latter case I am sure Mr. Powney will readily supply you with some plants for your garden.

I mention these circumstances as preparatory to the establishment of more extensive plantations of a Tree that will afford subsistance independant of the periodical rains, prove a means of counteracting monopolies of grain and furnishing a reason for supporting the poor in times of scarcity, by employing them to repair Tanks, Wells, and Choulteries at these times—Two years ago Mr. Alexander Anderson wrote me from Cochin, that he supped at a Dutch gentlemans upon Bread Fruit which resembled the finest Yam he had ever tasted.

Fort St. George, Feb. 19th, 1792. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO MR. HALIBURTON.

Dear Sir,

ALTHOUGH I understand there is a famine in every part of the coast North of the Pannir, yet as the rains though late did fall, I enclose some eggs of the Silk Worm for your plantation. By

By experiments made in the late hot ſeaſon at the mouth of the Gadavery, it appears that the effluvia of putrid fiſh is deſtructive to the worms, and it wil be neceſſary to keep them at ſome diſtance from the brackiſh inlets of the ſea.

Sammatchelum ſeems to me an elegible ſituation, and I am ſure Mr. Chamier will afford you every aſſiſtance in his power, but in caſe any accident ſhould injure theſe eggs, Mr. Binny or Mr. Roxburgh can repair the damage by a freſh ſupply, and I wiſh you to ſend ſome of the firſt eggs your worms may produce, to Mr. Webb at Itchapour, Mr. Fleming at Barrampore, and Mr. Richardſon at Ganjam.

Fort St. George, Feb. 19th, 1792 I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th, inſt. and to acquaint you that an application will be made to the Supercargoes at Canton agreeably to your recommendation, and that the Poſt Maſter will be directed to receive letters from you, for the purpoſe you mention, in ſuch number as may not encreaſe the weight of the Tappals beyond what has been ordered, to prevent delay in conveyance of the poſts.

Mr. Berry was directed not to put the Company to any additional expence on account of the Botanical Garden, untill the Court of Directors ſhall have ſignified their pleaſure reſpecting that eſtabliſhment, and as the reception of China Plants cannot be attended with any encreaſe of charges, the Hon. the Governor in Council approves of your recommending them to his care.

You will be furniſhed with a liſt of the Mulberry Plantations, and an account of their expences, when all the Superintendants have reported the information required of them by ſome late orders from Government.

Fort St. George, 18th Feb. 1792. I am &c.

CHA. N. WHITE

Secretary.

TO SIR JOHN SINCLAIR BART.

Dear Sir,

BY Captain Curtis, I ſent you a Ram, and three Ewes on the Swallow Packet, which were brought from the frontiers of Maiſſore by Col. Floyd; a Ram and two Ewes ſent from Coimbatore by Capt. Cuppage, were delivered to the care of Captain Gerrard of the Deptford; and having applied to Capt. Hardinge, you may expect ſix Lambs of the latter ſort, which are in readineſs, on the arrival of the Ship Kent.

From the coarſeneſs of the wool and its Straw or Bamboo colour, theſe Sheep can only be an object worthy your attention in the light of experiment.

Fort St. George, 22d Feb. 1792. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

To the Hon. SIR CHARLES OAKELEY Bart. Acting Governor and Council.

Hon. Sirs,

I HAVE the pleaſure to encloſe two Skains of Silk taken from the Reel this morning, which you will be pleaſed to tranſmit to the Honorable Court of Directors by your preſent diſpatch, and you may acquaint the Honorable Court, that by the favor of climate, I have had but little difficulty in bringing it to this ſtate; which your attention and the zeal which has been ſo eminently diſplayed by many of the Gentlemen in out ſtations, will I ſincerely hope ſoon bring to the higheſt degree of perfection, and produce in the greateſt abundance.

Fort St. George, 22d Feb. 1792. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON,

Phyſician General.

Dear Sir,

OBSERVING in your correſpondence that you recommended the Silk which I had the honor to tranſmit to Government, to be ſent to Bengal, and conceiving if it has been ſent, it will be agreeable to you to receive Duplicates (as I apprehend you did not ſee the original of that ſample) I have been obligingly furniſhed with them by Captain Flint to encloſe herewith.

Tiagar, 15th Feb. 1792. I am, &c.

GEORGE ANDERSON.

TO THE HONORABLE SIR CHARLES OAKELEY, Bart. Acting Governor and Council.

Honorable Sirs,

AS it appears by a Specimen of Silk ſent me from Tiagar, that what you muſt have ſent to Bengal at my inſtance, was injured in the gloſs and colour by being removed from the reel before it was dry, I have the pleaſure to encloſe two Skains made here in my own garden which you will be pleaſed to forward to the Supreme Board.

Fort St. George, 26th Feb. 1792. I am, &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON, Phyſician General.

Dear Sir,

I RETURN you many thanks for the communication of your farther correſpondence in relation to the Silk buſineſs,—I think it promiſes fair, and were we once clear of war and famine, I think would certainly ſucceed.

The times have been, and are againſt it; we have not hands at preſent ſufficient for Agriculture, the half of theſe Circarrs are a deſert waſte, and in ſome meaſure owing to the great Manufacture of Cloth, which in proportion to the population of the country takes too many hands from Agriculture.

I believe the firſt great object to attend to in all countries, is to procure abundance

abundance of Food at a cheap rate, which soon creates abundance of people, and when you have abundance of Food, and a Superabundance of People, then is the time to set on Foot, and encourage Manufactures—but I fear in the present state of these countries, let the industry of individuals be what it may, no new manufacture can be successfully established, but on the contrary those so long since established must decline.

19th Feb. 1792. I am, &c. JOHN BRAITHWAITE.

TO COLONEL BRAITHWAITE, Commanding the Troops NORTH of the KISTNA.

Dear Sir,

I AM favored with your letter of the 19th instant, and it is with pleasure I acknowledge the receipt of sentiments so conformable to my own in as far as the Arts, Agriculture, and commerce justly balanced, are necessary for the Multiplication of our species, but you know me better than to suppose I have much expectation of introducing improvements which from me can only be received as speculations in the present distressful situation of the Country.

On the contrary when you observe the opening of the business of cultivating Silk under the circumstances of war, you will acquit me of establishing a new culture under the circumstances of famine, because I have taken care to make allowances for such serious impediments.

The whole amounts to this, that has we have only a certain time to figure on the stage, it occurred that if I did not employ the present moment, the future might escape my powers; and thinking I had something to say, that at some future period might be converted to utility, I have ventured to engage in the service of posterity.

In this view of being useful, I shall embrace the liberty of distributing Nopals for the purposes I have mentioned to Government, and knowing that you possess the same laudable disposition, you will not be surprised that I send you some by every Tappall for your garden, and the Silk when you are better able to receive it.

Fort St. George, 26th Feb. 1792. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO COLONEL KYDD,

Dear Sir,

I HAVE the pleasure to send by Captain Pitman who has been obliging enough to take charge of them, six Tallow trees and six Lacquer trees lately arrived from China.

I have not yet opened the box with the Barometers you sent, as Captain Kydd, and the Gentlemen in Mysore have been so nobly employed, I have not ventured to divert their attention, but whenever the Barometers can be attended to in the manner you have specified, the experiments of measuring the hights will no doubt enable a better judgement to be formed of what the different countries are fittest for, than any thing we are yet possessed of.

Fort St. George, 27th Feb. 1792. I am, &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO

TO MR. GEORGE ANDERSON,

Dear Sir,

ALTHOUGH you have not yet been put in poſſeſſion of ground, I nevertheleſs take advantage of the permiſſion of Government to encloſe a leaf of the Kew Nopal, of which you ſhall be ſupplied with one every day for a month to come.

I am very ſenſible of your attention in ſending the ſample of Silk as well as obliged to Captain Flint for ſupplying you, and encloſe the copy of a letter which I wrote to Government in conſequence, that you may ſhew it to him.

Tell Captain Flint as we have no Ovens large enough to contain a reel, I have thought the gloſs and colour of my Silk was more fixed, by laying it two or three hours in the Sunſhine before it was folded up.

Fort St. George, 28th Feb. 1792. I am, &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON,

Dear Sir,

THE Nopal which you have been kind enough to ſend arrived ſafe by yeſterdays Tappall, it was immediately planted, and I ſhall acquaint you hereafter if it thrives, I am happy to inform you that the Silk worms are now multiplying very faſt, and appear perfectly healthy—from the firſt Silk that I wind off a ſample will be forwarded to you, and I have to requeſt you will point out any defects which may appear that I may endeavour to rectify them.

I have been lately informed, that the Bread Fruit tree grows at Shevelipatore, where Captain Dighton commands, and that the Fruit thereof is eaten by the Natives in that part of the country.

Tritchinopoly, 11t March 1792. I remain, &c.

ROBERT ANDREWS.

TO DOCTOR ANDERSON.

DEAR SIR,

I WAS juſt now favored with a Packet from you covering a large Sprout of Opuntia, of the ſame kind you formerly ſent me with ſome vine cuttings, which is flouriſhing, is now in Flower, and has encreaſed in hight aſtoniſhingly.

We have had a very conſiderable quantity of rain here within theſe four days, yeſterday it fell violently all day without any intermiſſion.

I am &c.

Arnee Feb. 28th 1792. ROBT. MACKAY.

TO DOCTOR ANDERSON.

DEAR SIR,

I YESTERDAY received your ſecond encloſure of the Nopal, which has been planted.

I was this morning viſiting the Bread Fruit Trees at Alliury and according to your directions ſet off ſeveral roots from the old Trees, but in walking about the garden I diſcovered ſix young Trees about half a foot high, which upon enquiry I found to be raiſed from ſeed, which the gardiners had ſown ſome time ago.

As

As by your correſpondence I find the tree in your garden was laſt month in Flower, you will be will pleaſed at the above information, and the eaſe with which the Tree may be propagated—and by your writing to Mr. Powney at Travancore, I have no doubt but you might obtain any quantity of the ſeed you wiſh.

I remain &c.

Tritchnopoly March 2d 1792. ROBT. ANDREWS.

TO DOCTOR ANDERSON.

DEAR SIR,

I THIS day diſpatched you a ſmall ſkain of ſilk which has been lately wound off by ſome people under Huſſien Ul Mulk Behader the Nabobs ſon who has intereſted himſelf much in the ſucceſs of eſtabliſhing the Silk worm, and is making large plantations of the Mulberry;—hitherto I have principally attended to the encreaſe of the Worm and therefore allowed the grub to eat thro' the Cacoon, which rendered the Silk unfit for uſe; you will as I before requeſted point out any defects which may appear in this ſample of our ſilk and I ſhall endeavour to rectify them.

I remain &c.

Tritchnopoly March 3d 1792. R. ANDREWS.

TO CAPTAIN CHARLES DIGHTON.

Commanding Shevelepatore.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE the pleaſure to encloſe a Copy of two Letters from Mr. Andrews at Tritchnopoly, which I will be obliged to you to peruſe, and write me in return, whatever has come within your own knowledge regarding the exiſtence of Bread Fruit, and the uſe of it in your part of the Country.

I am your very obedient Servant

Fort St. George March 6th 1792. JAMES ANDERSON.

TO ROBERT ANDREWS Eſq.

DEAR SIR,

I AM to acknowledge the receipt of three Letters, and have taken the liberty to encloſe a copy of the two firſt to Captain Dighton, which you will readily excuſe.

Before I receive the ſilk you mention, I will tell you, that I am ſufficiently gratified by your Succeſs, as we have accompliſhed the Buſineſs as far as can be expected to depend on us, and the interference of the Nabobs Son is a great addition to our Forces.

Be aſſured my Dear Sir I am not ſo ſanguine as to expect that we ſhould inſtantly prepare ſilk in a proper manner for all ſorts of Manufactures—that is a buſineſs of detail in the arts, which time only, and the attention of government can eſtabliſh—it is enough for us to extend the Mulberry Plantations and preſerve the Breed of the worms.

I am truly your's

J. ANDERSON.

TO

TRANSLATION of a LETTER from the HONORABLE JACOB EILBRACHT ESQUIRE, GOVERNOR of the DUTCH SETTLEMENTS on the COAST of COROMANDEL, by the REVD. MR. GERRICK.

TO JAMES ANDERSON ESQ.

Sir,

HAVING this day the pleasure to receive the continuation of your correspondence of 1791, on the great subject of the culture of Silk worms and other similar matters, I cannot postpone acknowledging that the whole little book is very entertaining to me, and that I admire the good success and the great views, which this costly and praise worthy undertaking openeth whilst I read it.

Accept of my humble thanks for it, and recommending myself earnestly to your attention in the prosecution of this worthy work, I beg leave to observe that of the supplement I want from page 6th, to 16th, which I request of you to send me.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Pullicat, 26th Feb. 1792. Your's &c.

JACOB EILBRACHT.

TO THE HONORABLE JACOB EILBRACHT ESQ.

&c. &c. &c.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE received your obliging favor of the 26th instant, approving of the subjects transmitted to you, which gives me additional pleasure, in as much as mankind should derive extensive benefits from the communication of persons of different countries.

It will therefore afford me real satisfaction that you apply any of the subjects I have mentioned to use, and enclose a copy of the continuation you desire as far as the 22d instant.

Fort St. George, 28th Feb. 1792. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON.

Sir,

I AM sincerely obliged to you for your much respected favor of the 28th February, enclosing the sheets concerning the culture of Silk—I shall not fail to fix my attention upon the business, to see what may be done with it within the bounds of our districts—encouragement and indemnification of costs contributes certainly a great deal to it, but the Dutch Company will possibly not be so liberal as the English.

May I beg the favor of your to communicate to me, whether the culture is advanced so far, as that any quantity of Silk fit to be named could be sent to Europe, and how high it is in price.

Nothing

Nothing will give me more pleaſure than to hear that the buſineſs by your indefatigable endeavours is coming to perfection, for than much advantage will be derived from it for the public.

Pullicat, 2d March 1792. I am, &c.

JACOB EILBRACHT.

TO THE HONORABLE JACOB EILBRACHT ESQ.

&c. &c. &c.

Dear Sir,

I AM favored with your letter of yeſterdays date, and much obliged by the particular attention you have ſhewn to the contents of my addreſs of the 28th ultimo.

You will ſee by my letter to the Government of Madras, under date the ninth of January, that the buſineſs is not yet ſo far advanced as to afford any conſiderable quantity of Silk, or determine the price at which it may be furniſhed.

I can only tell you what I have repeatedly told them, that if you will lay out ground I will ſupply Mulberry plants, and if you will erect Bungaloes I will ſtock them with Silk worms.

The hands neceſſary for the management of theſe yet require inſtruction, and the ſucceſs muſt ultimately depend on attention and care, but in ſettlements under your ſuperintendance, I can only form a very favorable opinion of all theſe.

That you may be enabled however to judge more adequately, I have the honor to encloſe a couple of Skains juſt taken from the Reel in my garden.

Fort St. George, 3d March 1792. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Skardon Paymaſter of Chingleput, to Sir Charles Oakeley Bart. Acting Governor in Council, dated 25th February 1792.

"IN order to enable me to eſtimate with ſome degree of exactneſs the coſt of erecting a Bungalo ſeventy feet long and fifty broad, it will be neceſſary that I ſhould be informed, whether it is to be raiſed and how high, whether to be rooffed with ſingle or double tiles, whether with Ceylon or Country Palmiras, and reepers, and whether it is to be paved or not,—as ſoon as I am made acquainted with theſe circumſtances, I ſhall communicate to your honor without loſs of time, the required eſtimate."

TO I. H. SKARDON ESQ.

Dear Sir,

BY a returning cooley of Mr. Walkers I ſend you ſome Nopals for your plantation in the view mentioned in my letter to government of the 15th ultimo.

I have received your favor of the firſt inſtant, encloſing your addreſs to the

the acting Governor in Council and do not think that any difficulties in your power to ſtart, will cauſe great impediment to the Silk buſineſs at large.

Fort St. George, March 5th, 1792 I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON

TO CAPTAIN SIMPSON COMMANDING THE SHIP GENERAL ABERCROMBY.

Dear Sir;

UNDERSTANDING that you mean to touch at every Port on the Mallabar Coaſt in your way to Bombay, I beg leave to trouble you with Sixteen wine Baſkets filled with three different kinds of Nopal Plants, that have been raiſed here for the culture of Cochineal (viz) from His Majeſtys Garden at Kew, from the French Kings Garden on the Iſle of France, and from China.

As the Baſkets are filled and cloſely packed with Nopal Branches which can receive no injury, you may throw them into the Ships hold, or ſtow them away in any manner the leaſt inconvenient, taking care only, that they may be readily came at, as I wiſh you to diſtribute ſome at every place you touch at, to ſuch perſons as will undertake to plant them.

I have likewiſe the pleaſure to ſend you nine Copies of the Publications I have made on the ſubject.

Sincerely wiſhing you health and a happy voyage.

I am &c.

Fort St. George March 7th 1792. J. ANDERSON.

To JAMES ANDERSON Eſq. Phyſician General.

Dear Sir,

AS I conceive it to be every ones buſineſs to forward as much as poſſible, Such a uſeful branch of Commerce as the manufactory of Silk I have collected from different places near Amboor upwards of three Thouſand Mulberry Cuttings, which I have planted about half a Mile from the Fort near the River, they are now in a thriving condition, and in the courſe of a month would be ſufficient to feed thouſands of worms; I applied to Captain Mackay to Supply me with ſome of the Eggs, which he very readily complied with, but unfortunately they never hatched—Mr. Ramſay ſent me ſome on the 28th of laſt month, which have been more fortunate one worm made its appearance on the 29th two on the 2d Inſtant and upwards of five hundred on the 3d, they are as yet doing very well—The commanding officer Lieut. Cuppage has given me every aſſiſtance in collecting and planting the Mulberry Cuttings, and ſeems very anxious to promote ſuch an uſeful undertaking.

I have the honor to remain Dear Sir, &c.

Amboor March 7th 1792. P. NICOLL. Aſſiſtant Surgeon.

TO

TO JAMES ANDERSON Esq.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE received your favor of the 5th Inſtant by Mr. Walkers Cooly, who delivered at the ſame time the Nopals you were pleaſed to Send me, which have been planted with the others in the Fort, and the greateſt care ſhall be taken of them.

I am really concerned to find you have ſo far miſconſtrued my meaning, in the application I made to government for a more particular deſcription of the Bungalo I was deſired to eſtimate the expence of building, as to believe me inclined to throw obſtacles in the way of your undertaking; believe me no one of thoſe employed at the different Plantations could poſſibly have paid more attention to the buſineſs, or be more anxious for its ſucceſs than I have, 'tis true I have been hitherto unſucceſsful, but that has not been owing to neglect on my part, or to any obſtacles I have thrown in the way of the undertaking, which has ever appeared to me likely to prove of great public utility.

The two Eſtimates, which appear by your late Publications, to have been ſent to Government, for building Bungaloes, are in their amount ſo widely different, that I am of opinion the gentlemen who made them could not poſſibly have ſeen the nature of the building in the ſame light.

To prevent my falling into the error which I believe one of theſe gentlemen to have done, was the cauſe of my application to government, and which could not poſſibly prove an Obſtacle in the way of the buſineſs at large, as a Bungalo will not be requiſite here for ſome time, the Plantation not being in a ſufficient ſtate of forwardneſs to feed any Inſects.

Do me the favor reconſider the buſineſs, and I am certain you will do me the Juſtice to be ſorry for having judged my conduct ſo hardly.

I remain &c.

Chingleput March 8th 1792. J. H. SKARDON.

To J. H. SKARDON Esq.

Dear Sir,

I AM favored with your Letter of the 8th in anſwer to mine of the 5th Inſtant, and am not ſorry that you think I have miſconſtrued you meaning, as I will aſſure you that it will give me pleaſure whenever I am convinced that I have been miſtaken on this head.

You might certainly have ſeen that government will be farther delayed in determining the difference between Country and Ceylon Palmiras, and time is all that I deem precious in the introduction of ſilk.

Your letter to me of the 23d of May begins "In my garden within the Fort of Chingleput, are upwards of two hundred Mulberry Trees each nine feet high" now I can aſſure you, that at that time, I had no Plantation of Mulberrys equal to yours, and yet I have ſent muſters of the ſilk to every part of the World, and Iſſued worms to almoſt every ſtation on the Coaſt excepting yours.

I am &c.

Fort St. George March 10th 1792. J. ANDERSON.

TO

TO JAMES ANDERSON Esq. Physician General.

DEAR SIR,

I HAD the pleasure of receiving your Letter of yesterdays date with nine setts of each of your publications, accompanied with a request that I would take charge of sixteen wine Baskets filled with three different kinds of Nopals that have been raised in your garden at Madras for the Culture of Cochineal.

I most chearfully accept the charge and shall not fail to destribute a part of each sort, with a set of your publications along the Mallabar Coast and at Bombay, to such persons as I judge will pay attention to a Plant so easily brought forward, and that ultimately may prove so advantageous to that side of India.

I shall hereafter have the pleasure of acquainting you in what situation and with whom I have placed them, and have not the smallest doubt of their succeeding perfectly to your wishes.

On board the Ship General Abercromby Madras Roads. March 8th 1792. I have the honor to be Sir &c.

FRAS. SIMPSON.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON,

Physician General.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE been prevented by indisposition the pleasure of acknowleging you pamphlet of Correspondence, with the several Nopal plants, which I have allotted a portion of ground for in the Mulberry Plantation.

The Silk worms sent me by Mr. Binny I have been particularly unfortunate with, the late rains having not only wash'd down the small house I had erected for them, but destroyed both Insects and Eggs.

It is however now in my power, being ordered into quarters, to accommodate and pay them that attention they require, and as the Mulberry Plantation is in high order, I propose troubling Mr. Binny, again for a fresh supply of worms.

I have the honor to be, Dear Sir &c.

Guntoor March 6th 1792. ALEX. MACKENZIE Assist. Surg.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON, Esq. Physician General.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE just received a Letter written by order of Government, relating to the Mulberry Plantation and have replied to it as follows.

Chicacole March 3d 1792. I Remain Dear Sir, &c.

C. FRASER.

TO ROBERT CLERK Esq. Dep. Sec.

"Sir,

"I AM favored with your Letter of the 18th Ultimo by order of the Governor in Council, and in reply thereto, I do myself the honor to inform you

you, that I never received the instructions of the 10th December to which you allude. I was then absent on leave, and by some accident or other the Letter never reached me.

"The Mulberry Plantation here is in high order, and indeed in the most flourishing state, having a good Ditch all round it, and a Canal of communication with an ajacent Tank, with a large well in the inside to receive the water, but which will require to be lined with Brick and Chunam.

"I think there are more than twenty thousand Slips planted out, and perhaps half the number are so far advanced as to afford young slips from them.

"The expence has not at an average exceeded sixty two Rupees a month; but as the Garden becomes better stocked with Plants, and Silk Worms Introduced, the charges must be a little encreased, perhaps to Seventy five or 85 Rupees a month.

The expence of Such a Bungalo as Doctor Anderson describes, with Brick Floors, Brick and Chunam Pillars, Shelves &c. &c. will in my opinion amount to about Star Pagodas 285 30 and I shall give directions to have it begun and closely attended to, the moment I am favored with the Commands of Government.

Chicacole March 3d 1792. I have the honor to be &c."

CHARLES FRASER.

Expence of building a shade for the Mulberry Plantation at Chicacole.

		Pag.	Fan.
To 50,000	Bricks for Pillars and Flooring - -	28	24
3	Large Timbers, - - - - -	21	18
110	Roofing do. at 25 feet each - - -	31	18
15	Garse of Chunam, Madras measure -	41	18
8,000	Bamboo's for Roofing and walls - -	22	36
	Thatch for the Rooff - - - - - -	18	24
	Nails for the do. - - - - -	7	6
	Carriage, Cooley work &c. - - -	114	12
	Total Star Pagodas	285	30

TO COLONEL CHARLES FRASER, Commanding Chicacole.

Dear Sir,

I AM this moment favored with your Letter of the 3d instant, inclosing the copy of what you have written the Deputy Secretary, with a statement of the expence of erecting a Bungalo at Chicacole, for the certain preservation of the Silk worms, which is altogether so distinct and reasonable, that I hope it will be adopted, with the exception only of Tiles rather than Thatch for the roof.

You will see before this reaches you, that I have taken advantage of the permission of Government in the use of the Tappals, by sending daily a leaf

leaf of the Nopal from his Majesty's Garden at Kew, which may be planted at the distance of six feet asunder.

Fort St. George, 12th March 1792. I am, &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO THE HONORABLE SIR CHARLES OAKELEY, Bart. Acting Governor and Council.

Honorable Sirs,

BY Captain Simpson who brought the Tallow and Lacquer Trees in safety from China, I have sent to the Malabar Coast five Cart load of Nopals, chiefly of the sort that came from Kew Garden, and having a perfect reliance on the integrity and attention of this Gentleman, I have the honor to enclose the Copy of his Answer to me, which you will be pleased to transmit to the government at Bombay, with a requisition on your part, that the plants Captain Simpson delivers are properly taken care of, as there can be no doubt that sooner or later, the Cochineal Insect will be sent from America to this country, and it will be of great consequence to have plants every where in readiness for their reception.

On the 18th November 1789, I had a promise from your Board of obtaining from Summatra Trees of that country, but to this hour have heard nothing more of the matter—what this silence can be owing to I am at a loss to say, as Mr. Crisp Governor of Bencoolen is reputed to have much attention to subjects of this nature.

As the Ship Asia is about to sail for that Island, I beg leave again to request your attention to my Letter of the 12th November 1789, and having it in contemplation to promote an attention to the culture of the Bread Fruit Tree, I am induced to request you will particularly specify two kinds of Bread Fruit Trees which Captain Lewis of that Establishment tells me grow there, and are mentioned in Marsedens History of Summatra, under the Mallay names of Sookoon and Calawee.

Fort St. George, 12th March 1792. I am, &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON,

Dear Sir,

PARDON it, that I have delayed until now the answering of your letter of the 3d instant, the delay was occasioned by manifold occupations during this week.

I rejoice in the happy consequence of the liberty which I took in addressing myself to you with regard to the Silk Manufactory, and no less do I think myself honored by the good opinion which you seem to have of my ambition to search into, and examine a work of such utility.

The skains of white Silk by the sending of which you have obliged me, are for the beginning of the culture very beautyful, and infinitely finer than I can remember to have seen in Bengal where our Company deals in no other white Silk than what is called Mochta, or Spun Floret, which is really yellow

yellow and of a beautyful luſture, particularly when it is Reeled in the Italian manner.

If you will permit, I ſhall keep the Silk you ſent, and ſend it to Batavia for a pattern to judge by, that whith the conſent of Government, it may be ſent to Europe.

I wiſh that upon receipt of an anſwer there may be an opportunity, being anthorized ſo to do; to purchaſe a quantity for a Specimen, and therefore I ſhall be glad if you will pleaſe to favor me with two or three Skains of yellow Silk.

Pullicat, 10th March 1792. I am, &c.

JACOB EILBRACHT,

TO THE HONORABLE JACOB EILBRACHT ESQ. &c. &c.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE received your much eſteemed favor of the 10th Inſtant, and am greatly obliged by your acceptance of the white Silk, which intrinſically is equal to the produce of any Country; but in caſe you forward it to Batavia, ſome apology will be requiſite for the Filature, as it is impoſſible that Children taken premiſcuouſly from the Streets, can immediately execute ſo delicate a work with advantage.

At preſent I have not yellow Silk ſufficient to make a ſkain; but you may rely on my ſending you the firſt ſkains of Yellow Silk I wind off, although I am ſenſible, that whenever it can be produced in ſufficient Quantity to be an object of Trade, the ſale will not depend on me; as the experience of forty ages, and the communication of one Country with another by the means of the ocean, have not yet enabled mankind to enjoy the goods of Nature with equality.

Fort St. George March 13th 1792. I am &c.

JAMES ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR ANDERSON Phyſician General.

Dear Sir,

I HAVE hitherto declined aſking you for any of the Silk worm Eggs, thinking I had not leaves enough to maintain them, but ſeeing there are now as many Mulberry Trees in my garden as would feed a Thouſand worms, I have alſo planted a number of cuttings, and have no doubt of being able in a little time to provide for a numerous Family.

I beg Sir you will ſend me a paper of eggs, and hope by my care of them to ſhew you I am not inſenſible of the attention I have experienced from you—ſhould my health permit me to remain here, you may rely on my uſing every exertion to promote the manufacture you have ſo zealouſly patroniſed.

I am with great reſpect your &c.

Arnee Feb. 28th 1792. W. BETTY. *Aſſiſtant Surgeon.*

TO Mr. WILLIAM BETTY.

Dear Sir,

AS I have found it expenſive to care for a great number of Worms, a circumſtance that muſt be more ſencibly felt by you, and ſeeing no mode

mode of your expences being repaid. I would recommend you not to keep more than a Thouſand, and for this purpoſe encloſe a Paper of Eggs of the worm producing yellow ſilk, having deſired Captain Mackay to ſupply you with a few of the white.

In this way your exertions will be ſerviceable, in preſerving the breed of thoſe worms we have got, till ſome means can be adopted by government of introducing them to the care of the Natives, as it is only in their hands that the Culture of Silk, or indeed of any thing elſe, can become an object of Public utility.

Fort St. George March 4th 1792. I am &c.

J. ANDERSON.

TO DOCTOR ANDERSON Phyſician General

Dear Sir,

I BLAME myſelf for not having thanked you long ago for your two laſt Publications, however I was not the leſs happy to receive them, nor unthankful for the preſent, particularly as I am uncommonly anxious to ſee your valuable Manufacture brought to that degree of Perfection, as to render in ſome meaſure the ſituation of the poor ſtarving Inhabitants of theſe extenſive provinces leſs miſerable.

You will ſee by the paper of memorandums ſent you ſome days ago, the thriving ſtate of our Silken Family, and Mulberry Plantations, it is therefore unneceſſary to ſay more of them here.

Samalcottah Feb. 26th 1792. I am &c.

W. ROXBURGH.

TO DOCTOR ANDERSON Phyſician General.

Dear Sir,

THANK you for the laſt part of your Publication, for ſilk worm Eggs that accompanyed it, and for a ſlip of Opuntia, which arrived this morning.

It will be perfectly ſuperfluous to ſend me more Eggs, and much more ſo the opuntia, without it is of a different kind, as I have ſome thouſands of the ſort you before ſent me under the name of the Kew Opuntia.

Samalcotta March 6th 1792. I am &c.

W. ROXBURGH.

EXTRACT of a letter from Lieut. William Hamilton to Captain Nevill, dated Ramnaudporam Nov. 12th 1791.

"I REQUEST that you will acquaint Dr. Anderſon that I have made a Plantation of Mulberrys here, and will moſt willingly undertake to render him, or the Hon. Company any Service in my power, for ſo laudable an undertaking as the rearing of Silk."

TO

TO DOCTOR JAMES ANDERSON.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 12th Inſtant, and to acquaint you that Letters will be written to the gentlemen at Bombay and Fort Marlbro', agreeably to your requeſt.

I am &c.

Fort St. George March 14th 1792. ROBT. CLERK.
Examined Henry Brown, Dep. Sec.

TO ROBERT ANDREWS Eſq.

Dear Sir,

WE have had ſome trouble in winding off your Silk, as it was matted together by being folded up wet, and the young Practitioners not having been ſufficiently expert to keep the Threads of an equal thickneſs, defects you will ſoon remedy.

I however return you as much beautiful and ſtrong Thread Twiſted, as will be ſufficient to make half a Dozen purſes, that you will do me the favor to get knit, and preſent one of them to Huſſien Ul Mulk Behader on my account.

Tell him that the glory of the Czar Peter as well as Hyder Ally, was the Introduction of the Arts, and Artiſts amongſt their People.

Fort St. George March 17th 1792.

I am &c.
JAMES ANDERSON

FINIS.